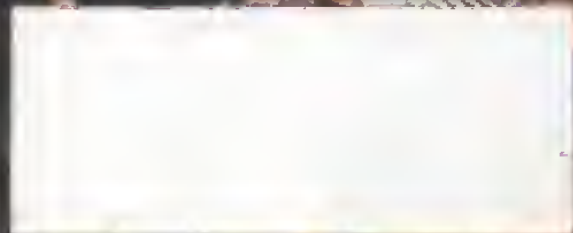


A photograph of two men fishing on a boat. The man on the left is shirtless, wearing a tan bucket hat and patterned shorts, sitting and holding a fishing rod. The man on the right is also shirtless, wearing a similar hat and shorts, standing and holding a fishing rod. They are on a wooden boat with a white cabin. The background is a large body of water under a clear sky. A pink rectangular box with a black border is in the upper right corner, containing the text 'FISHING at LAKE KARIBA'.

FISHING at LAKE KARIBA





A beautiful, large Nile tilapia is being fished by John Campbell, another well-known fisherman. The picture shows the fisherman among the half-rottened African trees which are a feature of parts of the lake.



KARIYA Lake, the biggest man-made lake in the world, is an artificial paradise, easily accessible by road and air from the main cities of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. This statement is no "unfettered" statement; the abundance of fish, of many species, will amaze the visitor. Even the most inexperienced sportsman returns to camp grinning from ear to ear, proudly holding up the "big one" that didn't get away! Catches totaling hundreds of pounds are not uncommon.

The most sought-after fish is the tilapia, closely followed by the bream family. The latter include the large black bream (*Tilapia mossambica*), the weed-eating (or red-belly) bream, (*Tilapia anabantaria*), the plankton-eating bream (*Tilapia macrochirus*), and the green bream (*Synchromis caudimaculatus*). One or two of the terrific fighting yellow bream (*Synchromis rubrus*) have also been caught in the lake; normally they are found above the Victoria Falls in the upper Zambezi, but they have somehow found their way down to Kariba, much to the delight of anglers.

Other species of fish to be found are the eelgrass, orange, banded, Cornish jack, and (in the swampy areas) the lung fish. There are also barbel, electric barbel (which give an unexpected anger a

severe electric shock), the giant catfish (known to Rhodesians as vundu), squabblers (an excellent tiger fish), yellow fish, blue-yellow salmon—and, of course, eels.

The recommended tackle for tiger fishing is as follows:

A fairly stout glass-fibre rod, in the Pulema range of the SALT, 54L, 6031, and 6641 is recommended. (Phantom rods ideal for the purpose are the H50 and H70; cheap rods are likely to be smashed to smithereens by these magnificent fighting fish).

A reel capable of carrying up to 200 yards of nylon line (of breaking-strain of 25lb. to 30lb.), with a drag (or slipping clutch) is essential. The Penn 500 is ideal, followed by the Penn 140, 150, 155, 25 and 26.

Hooks must be strong and sharp, preferably with a large shank to take a good-sized fish-clip belt. The Murand O'Shaunessy 6/0, 7/0 and 8/0 hooks fall into this category.

A wire trace of 27lb. breaking-strain and with size 1/0 black swivels, complete the equipment.

Tiger fish are predators. When the tiger strikes it bucks itself into the air, shaking its head violently from side to side in an endeavour to throw the lure. This tooth, similar to a dog's eye teeth, can often be heard clomping on the spoor, causing deep gouges in the ground.

Catch on lake page



Kidley fishing with a good fish. This is the first time the region has been fished. When a fish is caught, the boat is stopped and the fish is taken out.

Capacity: 130m. acre feet
Length: 15 miles
Max. width: 18 miles



A morning's catch of the fish, which is the most common after the first day of fishing. The fish are caught in the lake, which is the most common after the first day of fishing. The fish are caught in the lake, which is the most common after the first day of fishing.

This is the type of fish which is most common after the first day of fishing. The fish are caught in the lake, which is the most common after the first day of fishing. The fish are caught in the lake, which is the most common after the first day of fishing.



Contd. from inside

When a fish is hooked, the boat is usually stopped. The job, then, is to attract more fish: tiger normally swim in shoals, and, after the gymnastics of the first fish, the others become excited and interested. Thus, immediately after the first catch, the angler, discarding artificial lures, cuts into strips the chessa and n'kupe bait which has been caught, scaled and filleted in advance. The strips, about 5 inches long, are sewn on to hooks and are cast out and allowed to sink; and the boat is allowed to drift with the wind. The fillets are eagerly snatched up, and a fish is allowed to run off with the bait for about 20 yards. The angler then strikes hard: he is almost certain to hook his catch.

Reports have come to hand of a 50lb. tiger fish caught in the lake: the confirmed Rhodesian record is 34lb. 3 oz.

Vundu, barbel and electric barbel are caught by anglers fishing for tiger, as described above, on the same tackle. The vundu is the gamest of these fish and runs to a terrific weight: the largest recorded is 368lb.

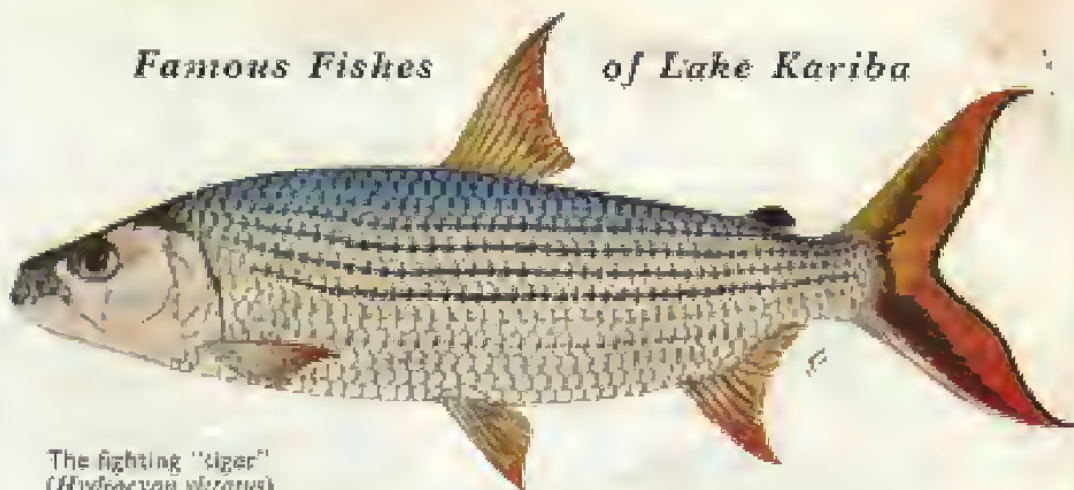
Bream, chessa and n'kupe are taken on worms. The required and most suitable tackle is as follows:

A 6 ft. spinning-rod, the best range being Phantom, and a good spinning reel, are recommended, and, in this class, the Mitchell reels are excellent (numbers 305 and 301 being first choice). Alternately, a short bait-casting rod, also in the Phantom range, and a small multiplying reel as produced by Record, are just as efficient. These reels should be filled with nylon line of a breaking-strain of 9lb. to 12lb. Recommended hooks are the Mustad series 92247 size 2.

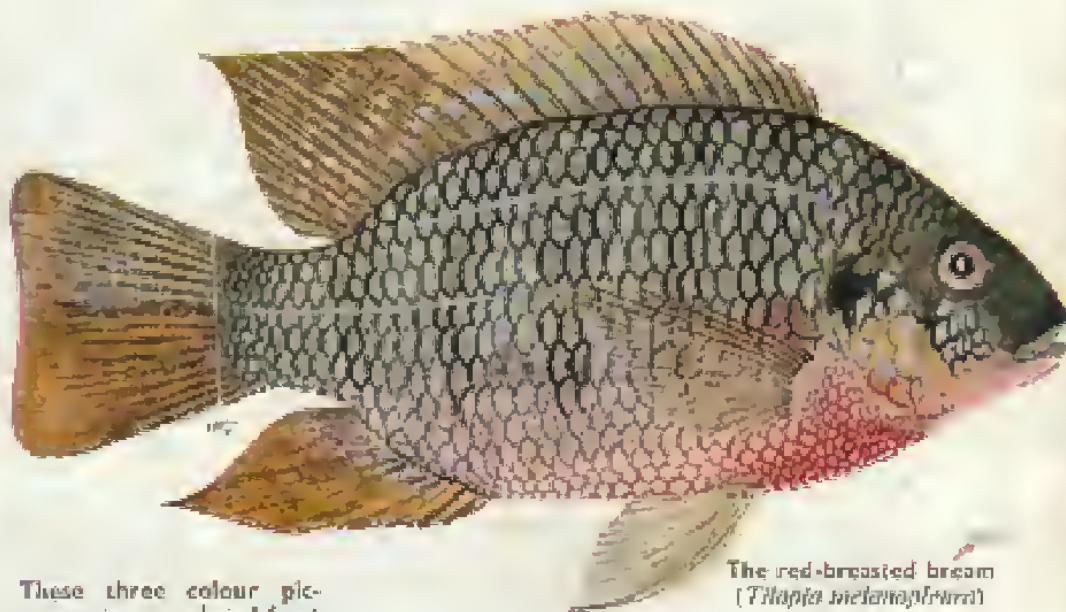
The fish are found amongst the mopani trees in 10 to 15ft. of water, or in the shallows of the bush-clearings in the semi-submerged grass. The angler has no need to cast his bait of earth-worms, as the fish can be caught by dropping the bait over the side of the boat and allowing it to run to the bottom. The bites are felt as short tugs, and a strong pull is necessary for a strike. The bream are a magnificent table fish, the others being rather bony although excellent fighters.

NOTE: Central African Airways recently inaugurated "alt-in" fishing week-ends at Kariba, including air fare from Salisbury, at the extraordinarily low price of £20 5s.

Famous Fishes of Lake Kariba



The fighting "tiger"
(*Hydrocynus vittatus*)



The red-breasted bream
(*Tilapia melanophara*)

These three colour pictures are reproduced from a recently published book *Freshwater Fishes* (Stuart Manning, Bulawayo) by Rex A. Jubb, the most authoritative book on the fishes of Rhodesia. The colour illustrations are the work of the author's wife, Hilda Jubb.



The Hunyani salmon
(*Labeo afirelis*)